

THE HARID AS A MOVEMENT

85

He is merciful and saves man out of mere
grace. He
is ever great and does not forsake one who
reaches out
to Him. Dwelling in the heart He knows our
inmost
thought, the Bliss in Wisdom, who is
gracious to
devotees. *fc Wife and children, mother and
father,
brother and sister, whatever is mine,
protect it you.
None will do it but you who protect the
whole world.
Grant my prayer, Sleeper on the Serpent,
Greatest of
sinners am I, Thou beautiful One, absolver
from sin :
O Lord, am I not your servant ? O
Universal Lord,
hold me by the hand and save me."

Vasudevadasa, another well-known
devotee, begged
this only of God and prayed to Him to be
propitious
and grant it. He would take nothing else
from the
Knower of all. That one prayer was that
he be not
placed in the company of the evil-minded;
not made
to beg of all and sundry ; that he be shown
only the
story that concerns God. He could not live a
moment
without God or something that concerned
Him. He
rejoiced to see God's servants. When he
could hear
of God he liked not to hear useless talk of
other things.
Long life without thought of God, he felt,
was worth-
less as nothing. Living but an hour he
truly lives
who counts as one of God's men.

This prayer is by Gopaladasa:

"Saviour of your flock and Granter of salvation;

show me
your lotus-like feet to-day; O Beautiful, O son
of Nanda-
gopa; Saviour of the distressed, Lord of all
good.

"I have been caught in the bonds of life and
see not the
way and am weary; say I am your child, and
forget my
faults and save me O Father, Source of Desire.